

Regional Open Space Program

Agricultural Lands Workshop

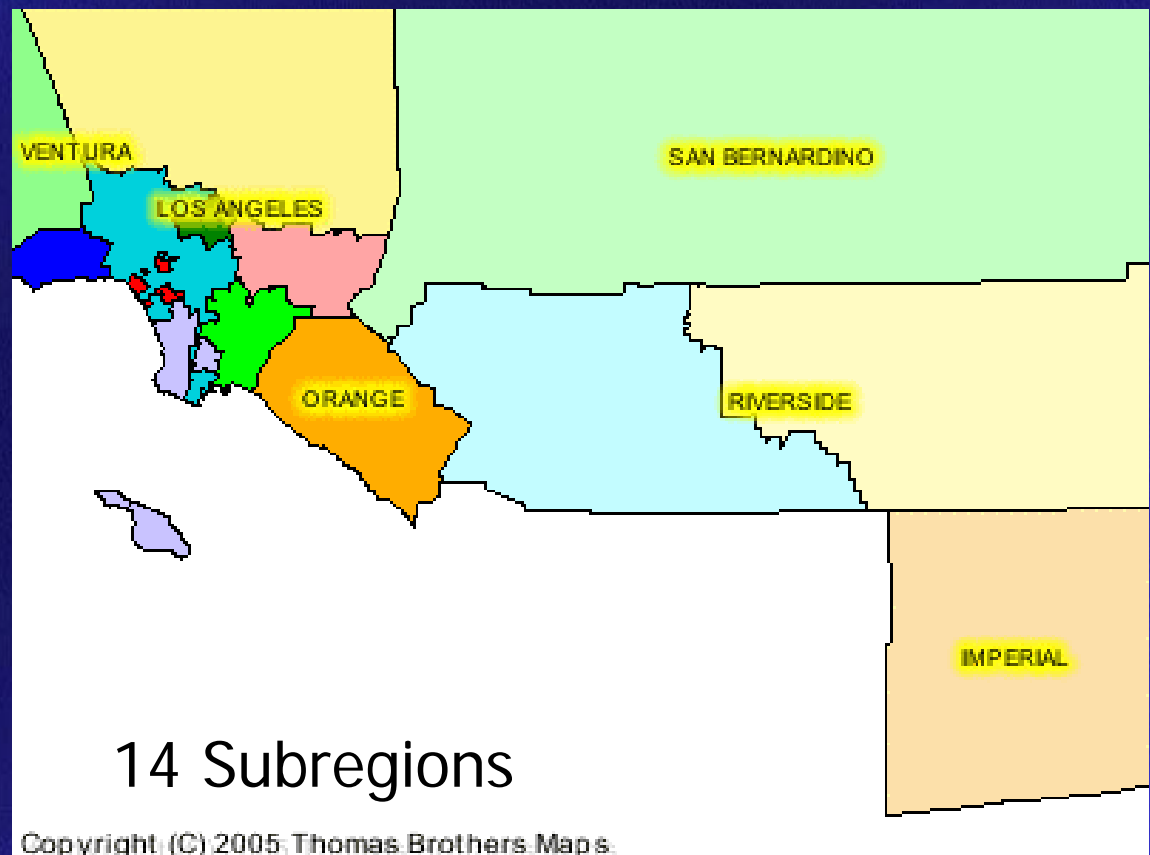
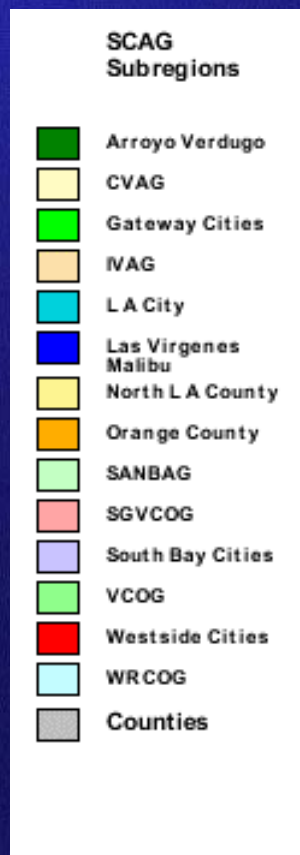
February 13, 2007

Regional Overview



- ❖ Largest Metropolitan Planning Area in Nation
- ❖ 6 counties, 159 cities
- ❖ 25 million acres
- ❖ 18.1 million residents (and growing)

SCAG Subregions



Regional Profile

- ❖ 2.5 million acres of developed land
- ❖ 2.5 million acres of agriculture, mainly grazing lands
- ❖ 14 million acres of parkland/open space in public or non-profit ownership
- ❖ 6 million acres of vacant and other open lands, mainly private

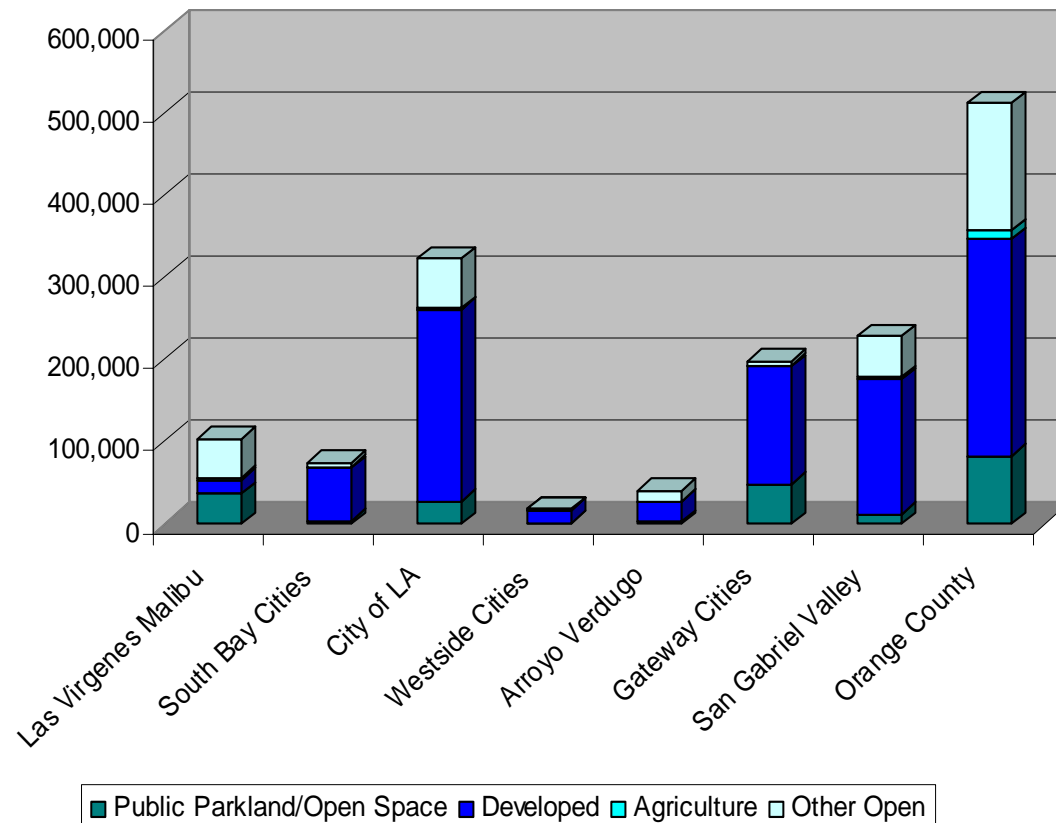
Subregional Groupings

- ❖ Urbanized: Los Angeles County subregions, minus North LA County, plus Orange County
- ❖ Urbanizing: North LA County, Ventura County, and Western Riverside
- ❖ Least Urbanized: Coachella Valley and Imperial County
- ❖ San Bernardino County – a separate case

Urbanized Subregions

- ❖ More developed land than public open space (except Las Virgenes/Malibu)
- ❖ Varying amounts of vacant private land (some to nearly none)
- ❖ Little or no farmland

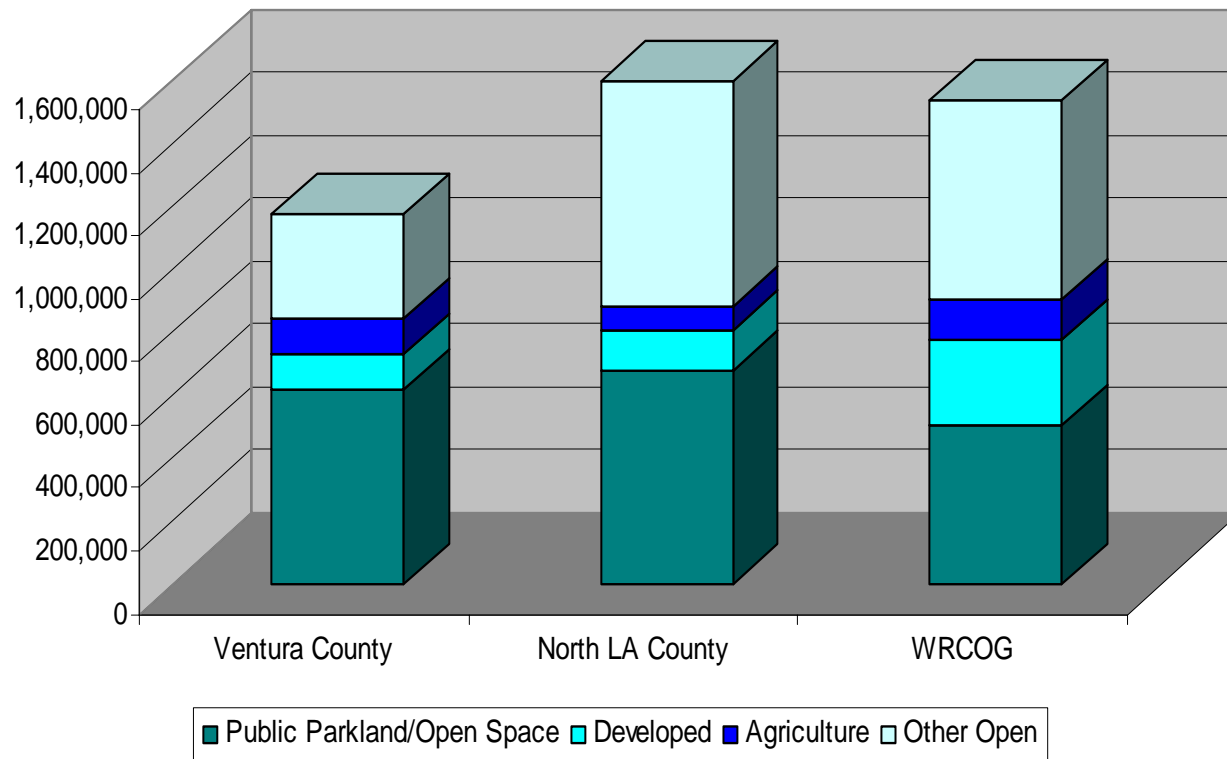
Urbanized Subregions



Urbanizing Subregions

- ❖ More public open space than developed land
-- but substantial levels of development
- ❖ Relatively large amount of farmland
- ❖ Relatively large amount of vacant private land

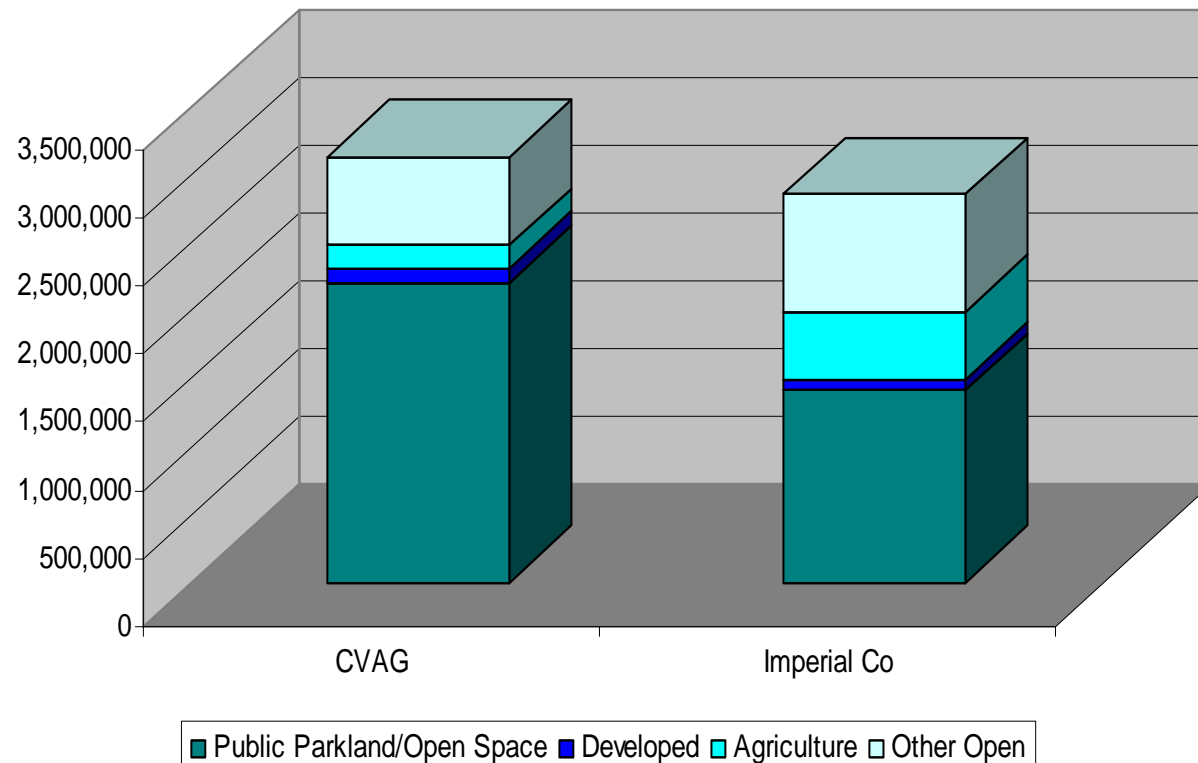
Urbanizing Subregions



Least Urbanized Subregions

- ❖ Substantially more public open space than developed lands
- ❖ Substantially more farmland than urban development
- ❖ Relatively large amount of vacant private land (equal to or greater than urbanizing areas)

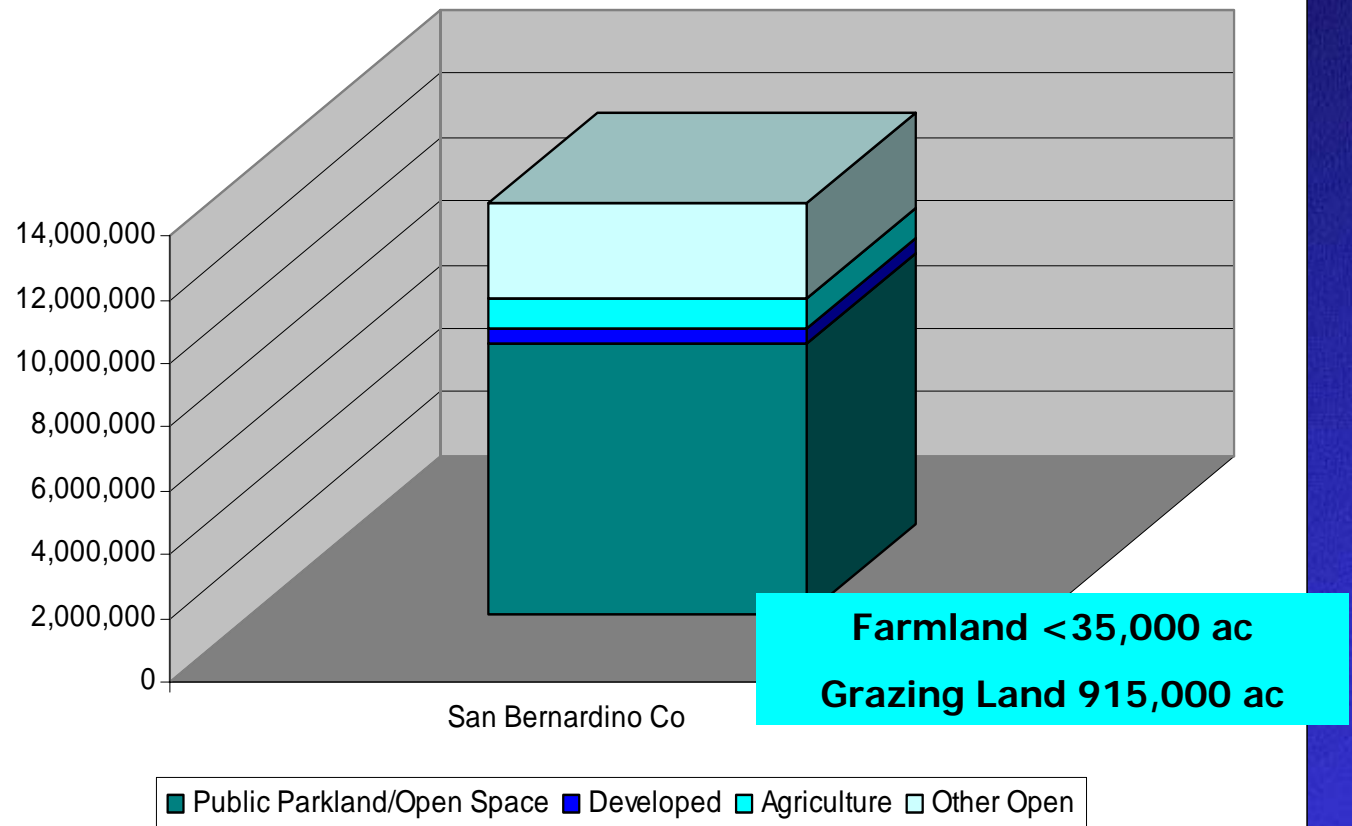
Least Urbanized Subregions



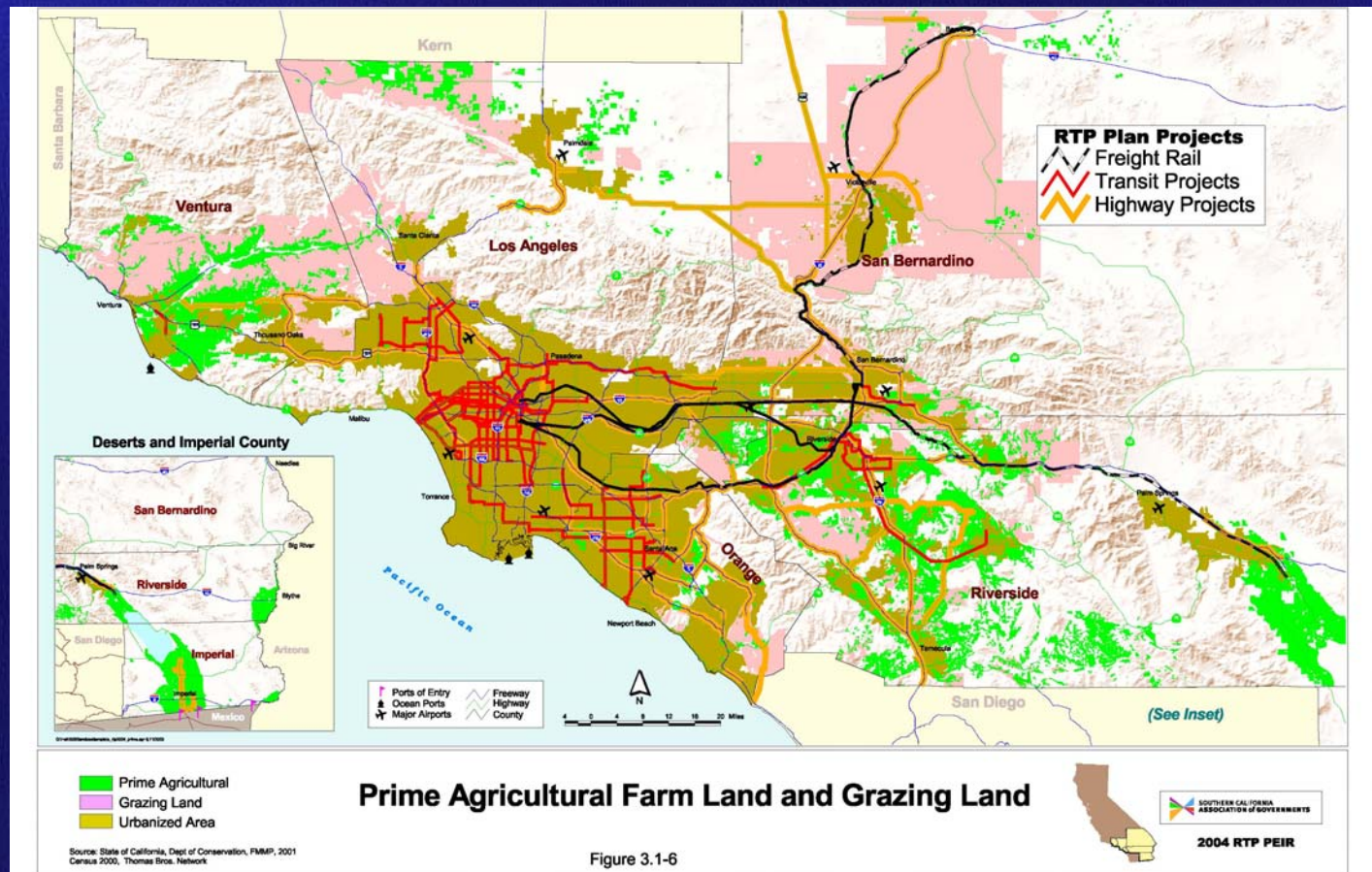
San Bernardino County

- ❖ Most public parkland/open space and most other open land in region
- ❖ More existing development than all of Riverside County; triple the amount in Ventura or North LA
- ❖ Less farmland than any of the urbanizing subregions; most grazing land in the region

San Bernardino County



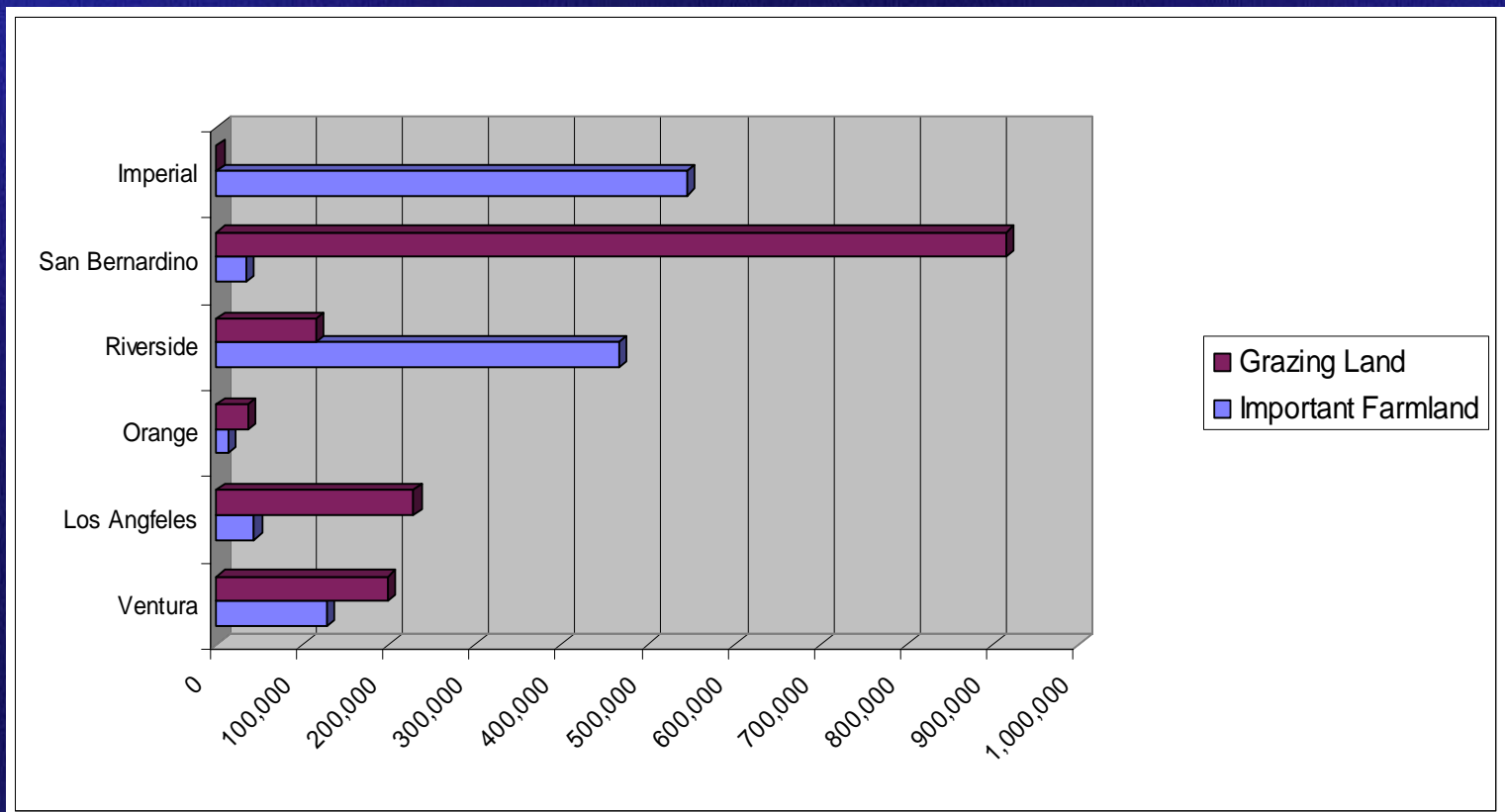
Agricultural Lands in the Region



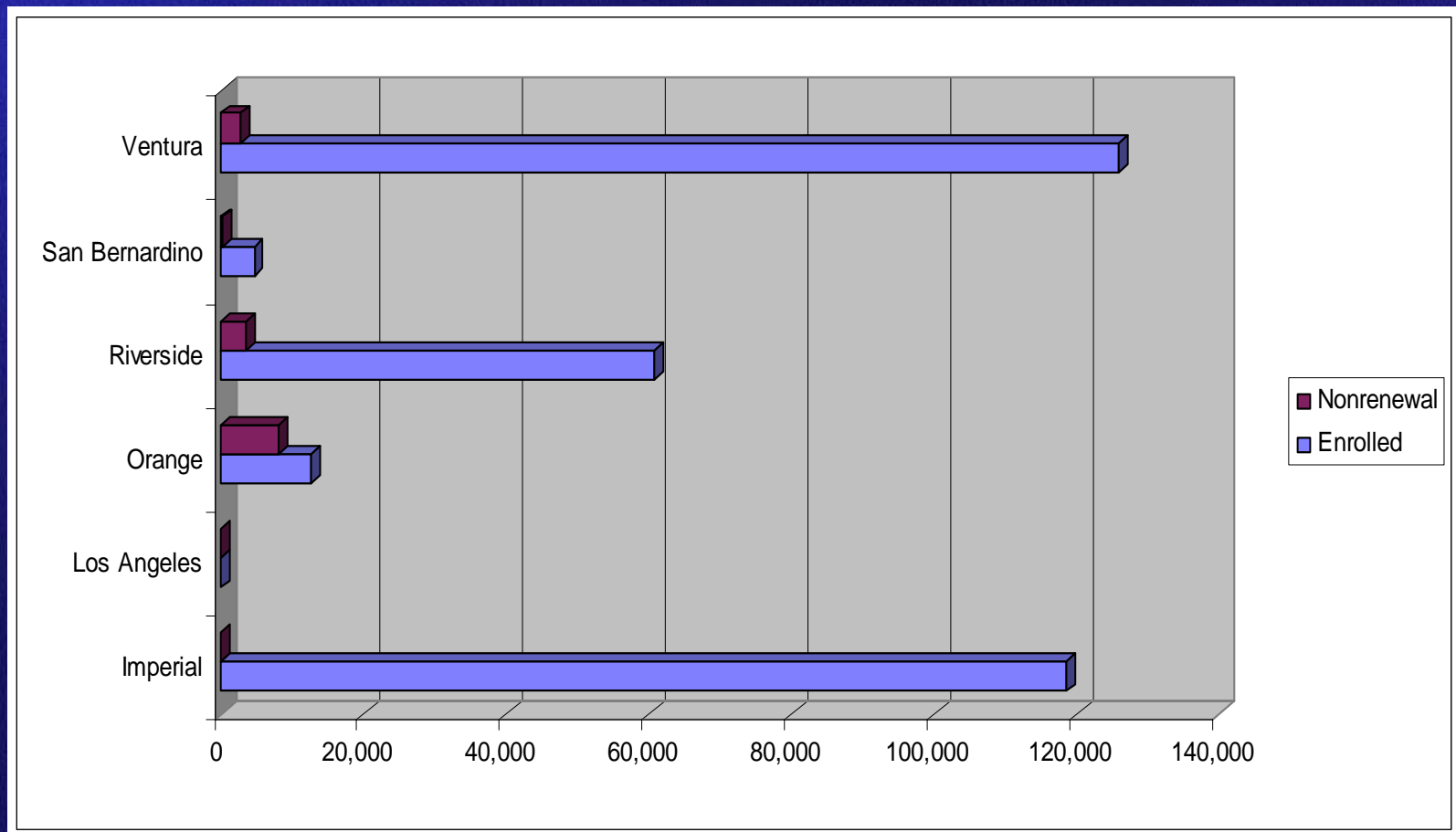
What We Know about Agriculture in the Region

- ❖ More grazing land than farmlands regionwide (>3:1 ratio)
- ❖ Almost all of the farmland enrolled in Williamson Act
- ❖ Several other local and state conservation programs
- ❖ 1996-2004, more conversion of grazing land than farmland to non-farm uses, except in Riverside and Imperial counties

Important Farmland and Grazing Land 2004



Williamson Act Lands

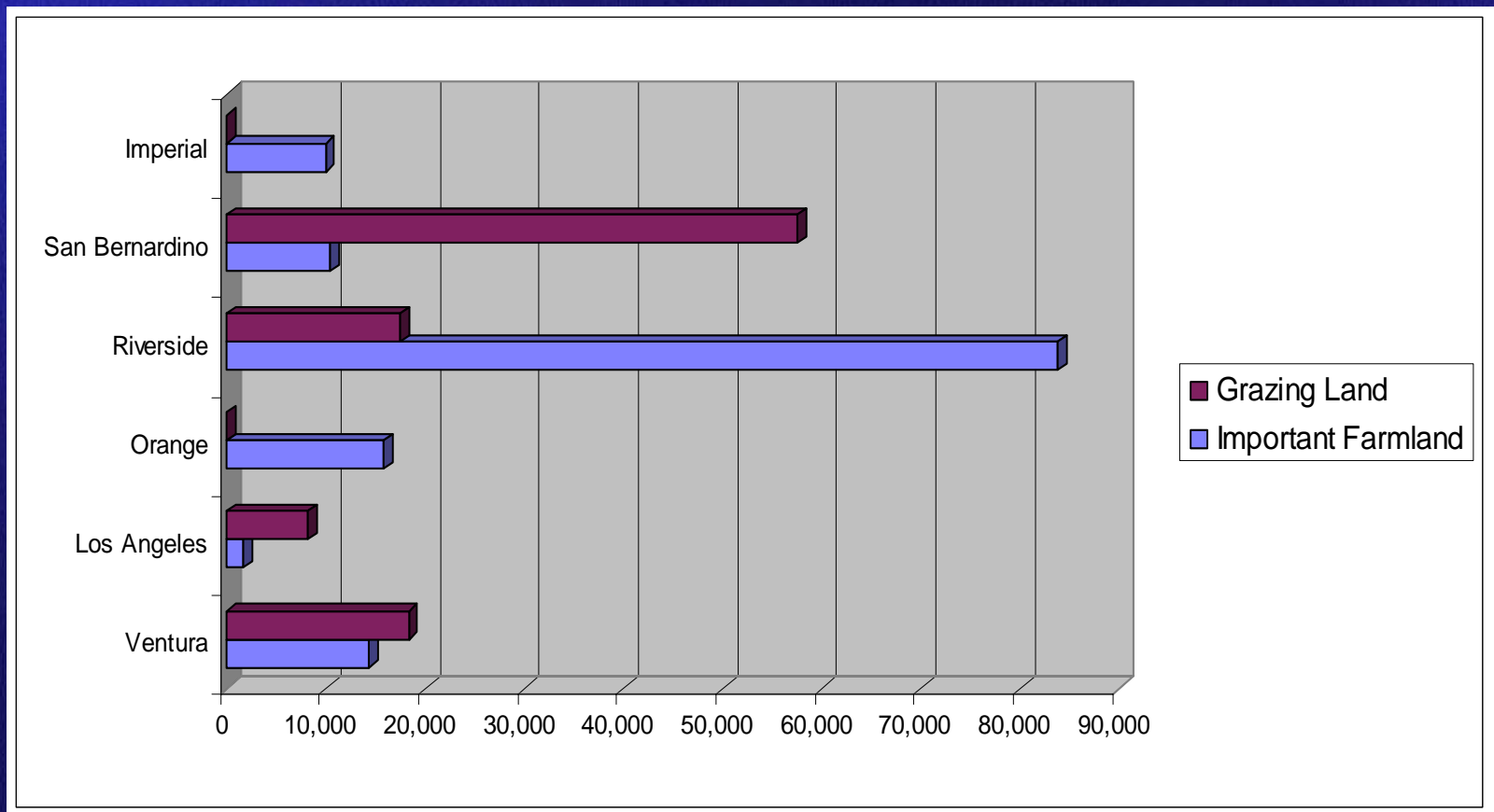


Conservation Programs

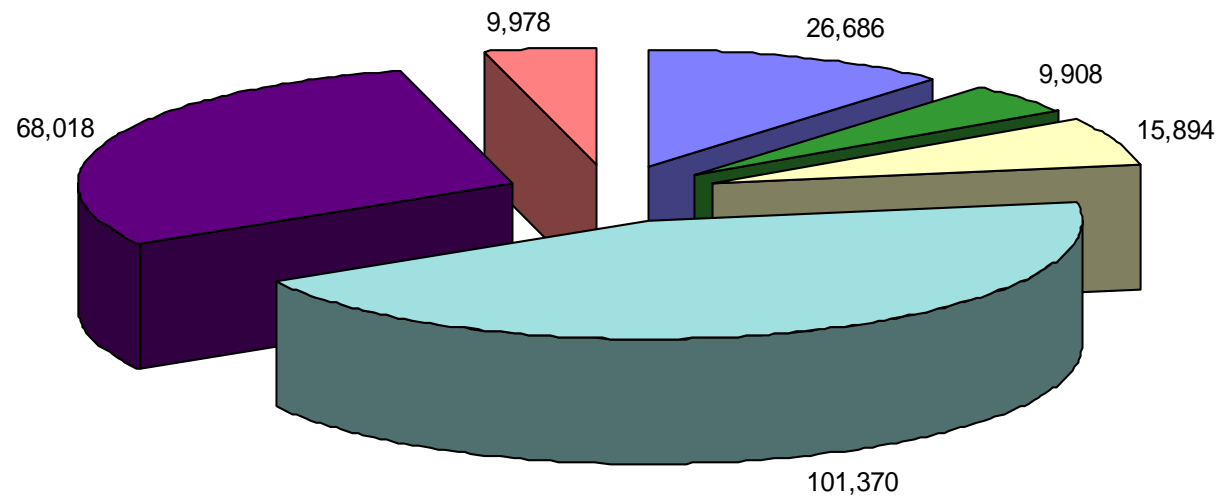
PROGRAM	IMPERIAL	LOS ANGELES	ORANGE	RIVERSIDE	SAN BERNARDINO	VENTURA
Williamson Act	X	X*	X	X	X	X
Farmland Security Zone						X
Agricultural Conservation Easement				X		
Land Trust					X	
Agricultural Preserve	X					
Resource Cooperative Agreement - RCDs						X
California Farmland Conservancy Program (CFCP)						
City/County Zoning and Local Programs					X	X
USDA Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP)					X	

*Program adopted, but has not yet executed a contract.

1996-2004 Conversion to Non-Farmland Use

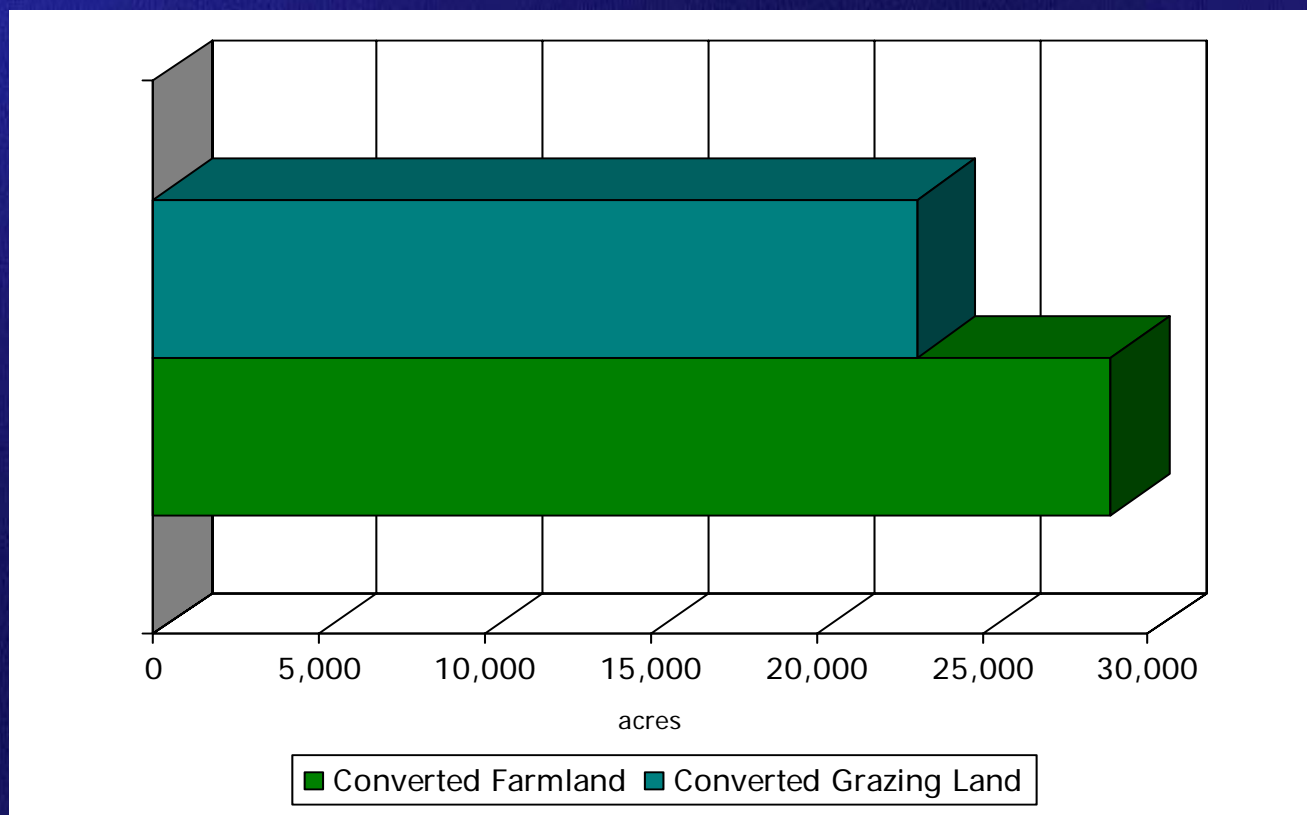


1996-2004 Conversion to Non-Farmland Use



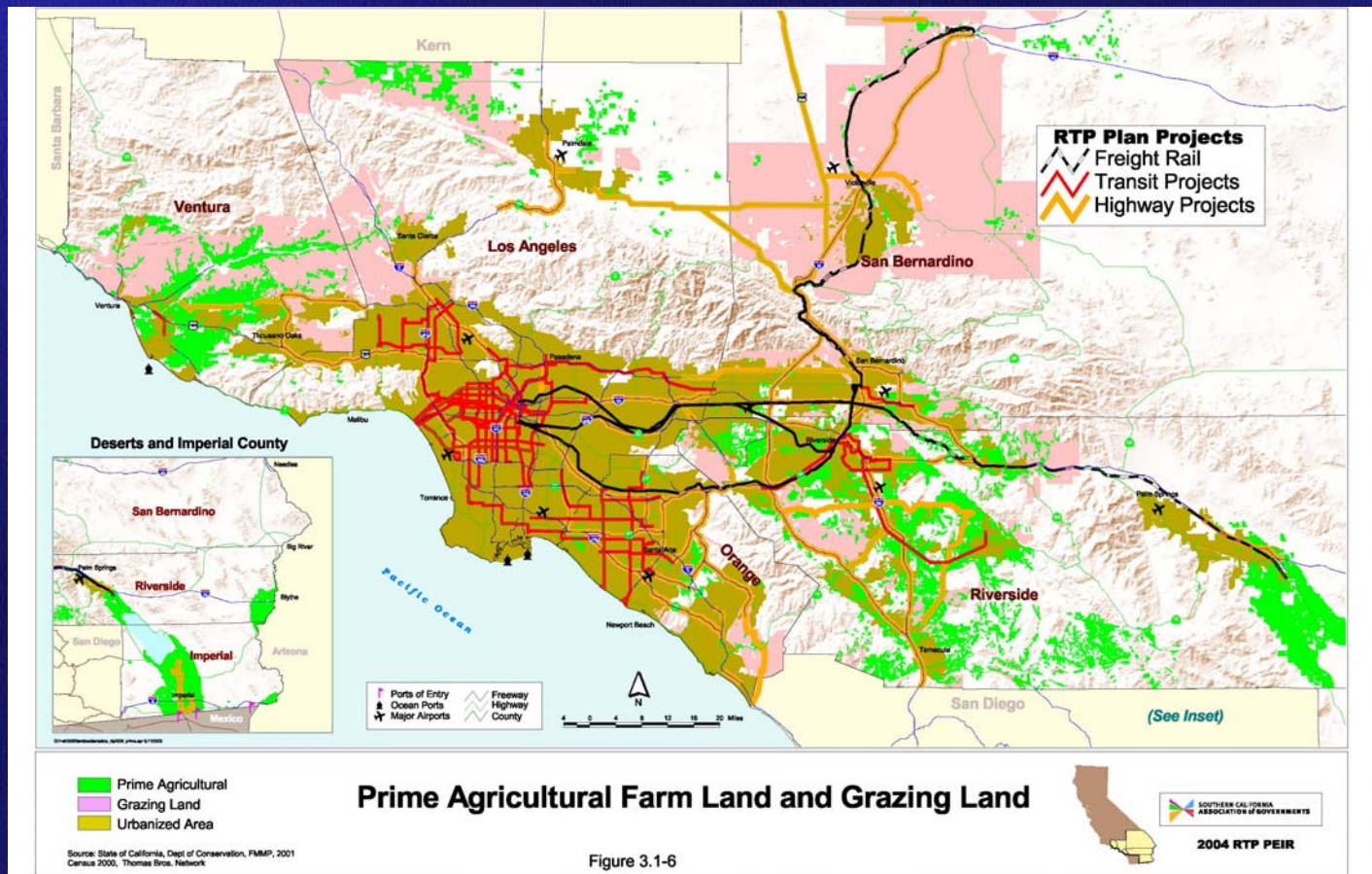
Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange
Riverside	San Bernardino	Imperial

Farm and Grazing Land Conversion 2002-2004*

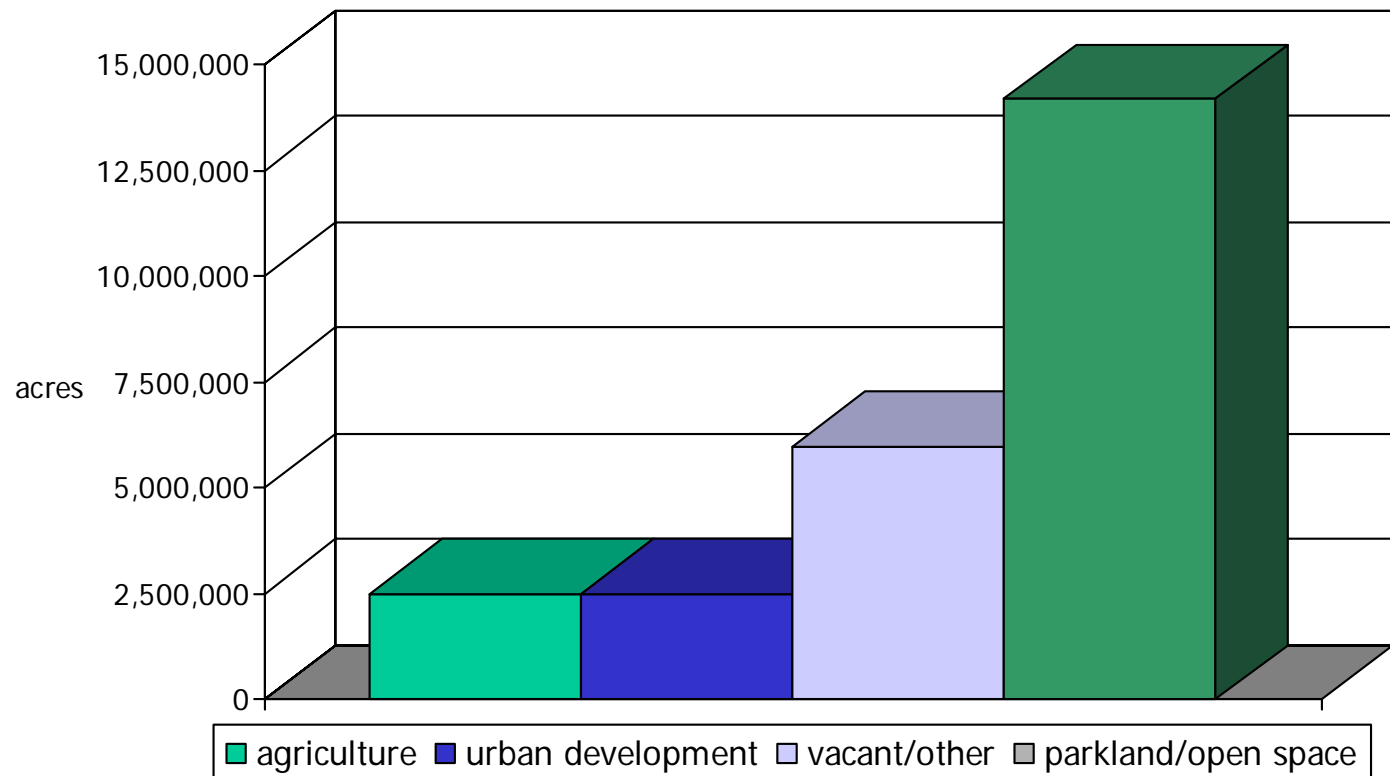


* Based on California Department of Conservation reports.

52,000+ Acres No Longer on Map



Agriculture and Developed – Currently 1:1



Key Questions

- ❖ How much of the remaining agriculture will shift to the “developed” category?
- ❖ How soon will developed acres exceed agricultural acres in the region as a whole?
- ❖ How will changing patterns of open space and development affect agricultural lands and operations?